Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, line 30 – page 5, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

For example, assume that all of the terminals 102-106~~8~~ are operating properly and capable of performing at 100% of their processing capacity. Furthermore, assume that the servers 108-112 are all capable of processing data at a same rate. Accordingly, each of the three servers 108-112 would be equally capable of processing one-third of the total data transmissions received from terminals 102-106. The transmission rate for each of the server~~s~~ 108-112 would then be one-third (1/3), and the throttling unit 114 could then monitor and control the data transmission of the terminal~~s~~ 102-106 so that approximately one-third (1/3) of the total data transmissions of each of the three terminals 102-106 is distributively transmitted to each of the servers 108-112. Alternatively, the throttling unit 114 can transmit the transmission rate corresponding to each of the servers 108-112 to the terminals 102-106 and the terminals 102-106 can then control their own data transmissions so that one-third (1/3) of their total data transmissions is transmitted to each of the servers 108-112. In this manner, a single server 108 does not become overworked while the other servers 110-112 remain idle.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 11 – 17 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 4 is a flowchart outlining an exemplary operation of a throttling unit to determine whether a server is overloaded. Initiation of the process begins in step 400. In step 410, the server ~~may~~ waits for a predetermined period of time, such as 10 seconds. In step 420, the server determines if it is overloaded. If the server is not overloaded, or is normally loaded, the process returns to step 410. If the server is overloaded, the server advances to step 430 where the server sends an

overload notification to the throttling unit. After the server sends the overload notification, the server returns to step 410.